

(B) PROHIBITED TITLES.

EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, A LICENSED OPTOMETRIST MAY NOT ATTACH TO THE OPTOMETRIST'S NAME OR USE AS A TITLE:

(1) THE WORDS OR ABBREVIATIONS "DOCTOR", "DR.", "M.D.", "PHYSICIAN", OR "SURGEON", OR ANY OTHER WORD OR ABBREVIATION THAT SUGGESTS THAT THE OPTOMETRIST PRACTICES MEDICINE; OR

(2) ANY WORD OR ABBREVIATION THAT SUGGESTS THAT THE OPTOMETRIST TREATS DISEASES OR INJURIES OF THE HUMAN EYE, INCLUDING THE WORDS "EYE SPECIALIST", "EYESIGHT SPECIALIST", "OCULIST", OR "OPHTHALMOLOGIST".

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived from Art. 43, §§ 379(a) and 381.

In subsection (a) of this section, the term "college or university" is substituted for "legally chartered college", and the word "licensed" is substituted for "holds a standard examination certificate", for clarity.

Also in subsection (a) of this section, the form of the permitted titles is changed to conform with current practice. In particular, the archaic provisions of the present law that forbid a licensed optometrist who holds the degree doctor of optics or doctor of optometry from using as a title any words or abbreviations other than "optometrist", "doctor of optics", or "doctor of optometry" are deleted. As revised, this section permits a licensed optometrist who holds a doctoral degree to identify oneself as "A. B. Cee, O.D." or "Dr. A. B. Cee, Optometrist" -- the usual modern forms of identification used by optometrists. Additionally, as revised, the section permits a licensed optometrist with the appropriate degree to be identified simply as "Dr. A. B. Cee", provided that the optometrist does not use the title "Doctor" or the abbreviation "Dr." with the intent to represent that the optometrist practices medicine. This approach also reflects modern practice. See § 14-702 of this article, which prohibits any person who is not licensed to practice medicine from using any title or symbol with the intent to represent that the person practices medicine.

In subsection (b) of this section, the prohibition in present Art. 43, § 379(a) against an optometrist making use of drugs, medicine, or surgery in the practice of optometry is deleted as unnecessarily repetitive of the combined